



Earth Day delayed,
activism shouldn't

UNO's first steps towards
sustainability should be
celebrated, supported

OPINION
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gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

Women's tennis secures
season record of 9-9

Mavs finish regular
season with 9-0 shut out
conference foe Emporia
State

SPORTS
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VOLUME 08 | ISSUE 51

TUESDAY | APRIL 21, 2009

Finalists named in athletic director search

Former Husker Trev Alberts on short list along with three other candidates

SCOTT STEWART
NEWS EDITOR

THE Candidates

Former Husker lineman Trev Alberts was among four finalists for UNO's athletic director post announced Friday by Chancellor John Christensen.

The other finalists are Nolan Beyer, athletic director for Millard South High School in Omaha; Bill Danenhauer, athletic director and head football coach at Dana College in Blair, Neb.; and Mike Marcil, commissioner of the Sunshine State Conference in Orlando, Fla.

Christensen said at a press conference Friday that he expected to form an opinion about which candidate or candidates he preferred over the weekend. He will then speak with representatives from the campus, community and Athletic Department before finalizing the decision.

"If you separate athletics from the campus, that says something that I think is inappropriate," Christensen said. "We're all in this together, and I think this needs to be a collective decision."

After the finalists are reviewed, the candidate who appears to be the best fit for the position will be invited to campus for further discussion, Christensen said.

"The type of input that I'm looking for now is that broad-based campus, department,

university and community input," Christensen said. "At the end of the day, this person reports directly to me, so it's a hire that I have to own the responsibility of and will do so."

The hire is expected to be made by the end of the spring semester.

"We don't want to spend a great deal of time," Christensen said. "There's a fine balance there, in my opinion, between rushing to judgment, which we don't want to do, and finding the right person in a timely fashion."

Making the calls

Whoever is hired will have a large slate of decisions to make as UNO gears up for its second season in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and looks to increase the competitiveness of its Division I hockey program.

"My vision for athletics is to be the

premiere D-II program in the country, to be the model so that when people talk about what D-II athletics can be, UNO is the name that is referred to, while at the same time having a highly consistent and highly competitive hockey program," Christensen said. "I think those opportunities are there and the potential is there, and we're seeing that potential being realized on the academic side of the house."

Two decisions the new athletic director will face immediately are the future of hockey coach Mike Kemp and the hiring of a new associate athletic director, Christensen said. The need to make critical decisions is part of the urgency surrounding the selection of a new athletic director.

"I really believe strongly that your athletic director needs to be making

decisions at the coaching level," Christensen said, responding to a question about Kemp's future. "I don't think it would be appropriate for the chancellor doing that — not only in athletics, but I don't want to be hiring department chairs or deans, either."

Reviewing the candidates

Alberts is one of the most decorated defensive players in Husker history, as Nebraska's first Butkus Award winner and Football News National Defensive Player of the Year in 1993. A fifth pick in the NFL draft, Alberts played in 29 games during three seasons with the Indianapolis Colts until he retired because of injuries.

As senior co-captain at Nebraska, Alberts led the Huskers to an undefeated regular season and an Orange Bowl

SEE **FINALISTS**: PAGE 5

Protesters steamed over government spending attend Tax Day tea parties



About 1,500 protesters attended a tea party at the Douglas County Courthouse at 1701 Farnam St. on April 15. (CAITRIN SHIRAZI/THE GATEWAY)

JASMINE MAHARISI
CONTRIBUTOR

Hundreds of protesters gathered in front of the Douglas County courthouse on Tax Day, carrying tea bags and signs to express their disapproval of recent federal government spending.

The demonstration was part of a national campaign to hold hundreds of "tea parties" across the country on April 15, with at least one being held in every state.

The tea parties were intended to echo the famous Boston Tea Party held to protest

the Tea Act of 1773. Responding to "taxation without representation," a group of colonists dumped more than 100,000 pounds of tea into Boston Harbor to protest their lack of membership in Parliament.

The origins of the campaign are murky, with claims Republicans orchestrated the parties and claims they represented a grassroots uprising. An on-air rant by CNBC analyst Rick Santelli was one of the early calls for a new Boston Tea Party. He said President Obama's tax policies equated to "taxation without good representation."

SEE **TAXES**: PAGE 8

Students react to same-sex marriage law ruling, changes in Iowa, Vermont

KRISTIN HAWTHORNE
CONTRIBUTOR

Until recently, same-sex marriages were confined to the coasts and were only a distant reality in the Midwest. With the passage of California's Proposition 8, it looked like same-sex marriages were losing ground nationally.

Then there was Iowa. On April 3, the Iowa Supreme Court ruled that the state's prohibition on same-sex marriage violated the state's constitution.

Because of the court's order, couples will be able to file for marriage licenses on April 27. Following a mandatory three-day waiting period, Iowa is expected issue its first same-sex marriage license by April 30.

Iowa isn't the only state reviewing its handling of same-sex marriages, though.

While the judicial system made the final decision in Iowa, Vermont legislators decided to follow a different path.

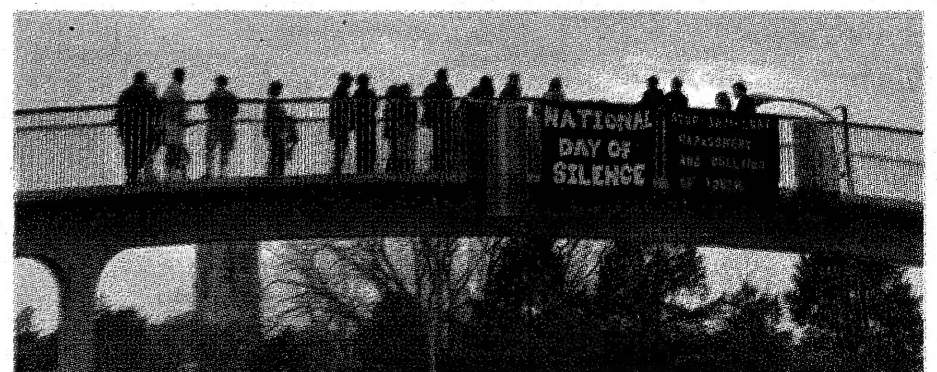
After Gov. Jim Douglas vetoed a bill allowing same-sex couples, the Vermont Senate overrode him by a vote of 23-5, followed by the House by a vote of 100-49. As a result of the legislation, Vermont's nine-year same-sex civil union law will be upgraded starting Sept. 1.

Iowa and Vermont will join only two other states—Massachusetts and Connecticut—in allowing same-sex people the right to marry. California had allowed same-sex marriages, but Proposition 8's passage last year resulted in the reversal to civil unions.

Several other states are beginning to face similar questions over the status of same-sex marriages. Lawmakers in New Hampshire, Maine, New York and New Jersey are all reviewing potential legislation.

UNO students — like the rest of the nation — have a variety of perspectives on the decisions to allow same-sex marriage,

SEE **MARRIAGE**: PAGE 2



The Gender and Sexual Orientation Student Agency sponsored a National Day of Silence candlelight vigil on the Memorial Park pedestrian bridge on Friday. The vigil condemned anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered harassment. (CHAD WALLIN/THE GATEWAY)

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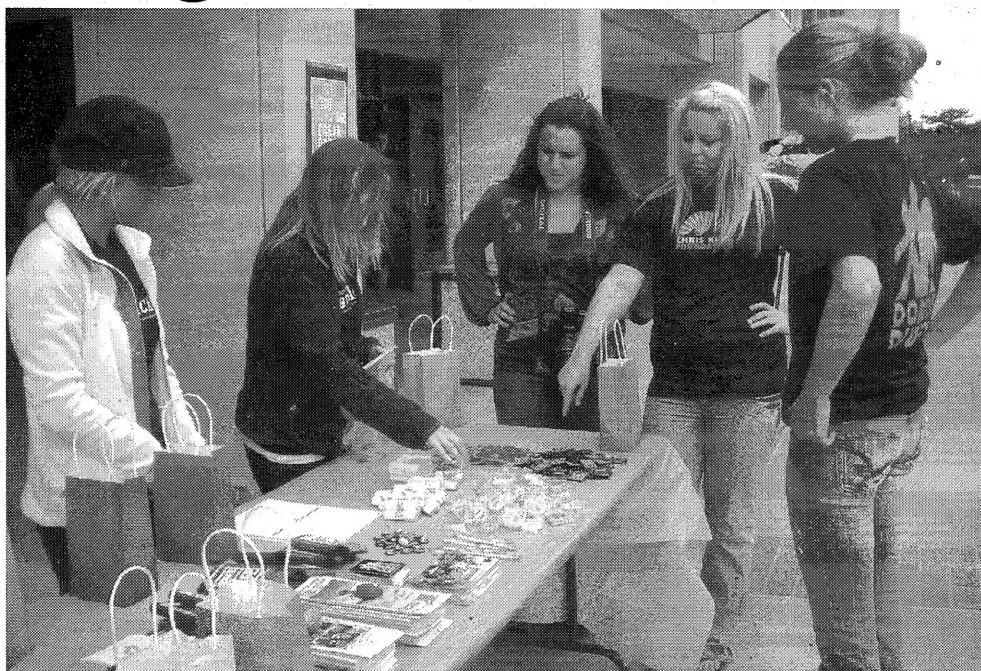
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Organ donor awareness finds

CAITRIN SHIRAZI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER



Maverick PR students prepare for the "Be a Team Player: Become a M.V. Donor" event in the Milo Bail Student Center plaza on Thursday. (ANDREA CIUREJ/THE GATEWAY)

Members of Maverick PR, the UNO chapter of Public Relations Students Society of America, held an organ donor awareness event Thursday in the Nebraska Room and courtyard of the Milo Bail Student Center.

The event, "Be a Team Player: Become an M.V. (Most Valuable) Donor," was intended to observe National Donate Life Month in April.

"Planning for the event was really insightful," said Michelle Horn, a member of Maverick PR. "I didn't realize how many people weren't registered donors and weren't aware that one donor can save many lives."

Passers-by in the courtyard were encouraged to take part in basketball shoot-out contests in which they could also get more information on becoming an organ donor.

Radio station Channel 94.1 was present and hosted a live radio remote broadcast of the event. Free hotdogs and chips were given to anyone with proof of being an organ donor or those who signed up to become one at the informational displays that day.

Anti-truancy task force hopes to build bright futures on campus

CAITRIN SHIRAZI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A UNO group is working to eliminate truancy in Omaha's schools and help youth in the community.

Building Bright Futures is an organization that focuses on improving the education and wellness of Omaha children, specifically those who come from economically or academically disadvantaged parts of the metro area.

The group is made up of five primary task forces: Making the Most of Childhood; Providing Academic Support and Career Awareness; After School Mentoring and Tutoring for Excellence; Recovering Lost Youth and Truancy Reduction; and Addressing Adolescent Behavioral Health.

"The initiative that we work for here at UNO-Building Bright Futures is for the truancy and lost youth task force," said program coordinator Sharif Liwaru. "The search for personnel to lead this effort here at UNO began last fall. Positions were posted and hiring began at the end of the year."

Leading the task force are Jerry Barte, OPS assistant superintendent, and Kim Hawekotte, former head of the civil division of the Douglas County Attorney's Office. The team also contains UNO's Silas Clarke, Suzi Busby and Nicole Schaefer.

"We are the beginning. There isn't an off-the-shelf program or approach to doing this," Liwaru said. "We work to develop an incentive program to reduce truancy in K-12 schools in the local learning community."

Liwaru said the group overcomes challenges in a unique way.

"We have great and often lengthy discussions as we develop the rationale for

various aspects of the program. We challenge each other to deeply examine the ideas we have and deconstruct the assumptions that any of us may hold or that we foresee others holding about what we intend to or do not intend to do with this program," Liwaru said. "We respect each other and this has prevented us, I believe, from having difficulties in developing our pilot."

Thousands of students are absent from the Omaha Public Schools on a daily basis. Most of them don't have legitimate excuses for missing school.

"More than 3,600 juvenile students are arrested annually in Omaha. These students have lower achievement and are at higher risk of delinquency, drug use and dropping out," Liwaru said. "Once youths are in the juvenile justice system, getting them back on track is challenging but worth the effort because of the immense social and financial cost savings."

Some strategic priorities include developing a common protocol that will eliminate truancy across the state, and instituting the pilot Truancy Intervention Program. This program uses ideal practices to solve Omaha's truancy problem.

Other strategies include providing unique case management, mentoring and wraparound services to juveniles in order to reintegrate them into the education system and ultimately the workforce.

Many private resources support the project, which creates a significant number of great opportunities for the UNO community. Those interested in volunteering can log onto buildingbrightfutures.net. Students are welcome to lend their experience, knowledge and skills.

FROM MARRIAGE: PAGE 1

ranging from supportive to condemning.

Windy Rottenbacher, a social work major and member of the UNO student social group Queers and Allies, said she was excited with the progression of gay rights in Iowa.

"At first, I thought, 'Iowa, really?'" Rottenbacher said. "But, it's absolutely fantastic that they are leading the way."

The argument, Rottenbacher said, that the family structure will be threatened or damaged if same-sex couples are allowed to marry was the same one used to prevent women from voting.

"Same-sex marriage will not bring the hellfire of heaven; no one will turn into pigs," Rottenbacher said. "The family structure will be preserved."

Civil unions aren't enough for couples since it's just a form of "lip service," Rottenbacher said. The ability to marry ought to be considered a right.

A civil union, Rottenbacher said, doesn't allow you to adopt each other's children. It recognizes the couple as co-existing, not married. Rottenbacher compared this to the treatment of blacks before and during the civil rights movement.

"Separate but equal has never worked. Why would we expect it to work now?" Rottenbacher said. "By no means should you be placated with civil unions."

Kristin Phillips, a history major who is also member of Queers and Allies and former columnist for The Gateway, said that news of Iowa's same-sex marriage law was surprising, but exciting.

"Iowa has historically been represented for its traditional values," Phillips said.

Phillips said she didn't mind how the goal of gaining gay marriage rights came about, whether legislatively or judicially. However, legislation is a better way to send the message that same-sex marriage is what the majority of people want.

Chelsey Stearns, a criminal justice major, said she was shocked that Iowa — a state she described as conservative as Nebraska — would grant same-sex marriages.

"I would've wanted a state-wide vote though," Stearns said. "Leave it up to the people."

Theresa Faure, a chemistry major, said she was in favor of civil unions and didn't mind couples moving to Iowa to get married.

"I don't think it will be a bad thing," Faure said. "It might boost the economy."

Ben Mawhiney, a biology major, said he would like to be able to vote on the matter rather than have the ruling in the hands of the Iowa Supreme Court.

"We're not idiots," Mawhiney said. "We don't need them to decide."

Marriages, Mawhiney said, originated in the church and should be kept in the hands of church officials.

"It's fundamentally a Christian thing and should be kept out of a state decision," Mawhiney said.

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strength in UNO campus, community

UNO student and heart transplant recipient Sarah Prenosil also took the stage at the event to share the story of how organ donating saved her life.

Prenosil encouraged students, faculty and staff to register to become organ donors.

At present, more than 100,000 Americans are waiting for life-saving organ transplants, about 500 of whom live here in Nebraska.

"I think that the National Organ Donor Awareness campaign was an awesome opportunity to make students aware of the importance of becoming an organ donor," said Cassie Prestia, a member of Maverick PR. "I don't think students realize just how important it is and how greatly people are affected by it, even within our own community."

A question and answer session with a panel of people involved in promoting organ donor

awareness wrapped up the event.

The panel members were Doug Bremers, manager of Donate Life Services; Mike Pick, clinical coordinator of Nebraska Organ Recovery System; Stephanie Lochmiller, public relations coordinator of Nebraska Organ Recovery System; Jennifer Lederer, tissue procurement manager of Lions Eye Bank of Nebraska; and Annette Fumagali, a heart transplant recipient.

The event was sponsored by Maverick PR in partnership with Donor Dudes and the Nebraska Organ Recovery System, the federally designated organ procurement organization for Nebraska and Pottawattamie County in Iowa.

Donor Dudes is a national advocacy group that promotes organ donation and stresses its importance on college campuses across the country.



Right: Karen Weber, behind table, helps students register to become organ donors. Weber is Maverick PR's advisor and an instructor in the School of Communication. (CAITRIN SHIRAZI/THE GATEWAY)



CAITRIN SHIRAZI/THE GATEWAY

MALCOLM X FESTIVAL

Michael Eric Dyson, writer of "April 4, 1968: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Death and How it Changed America," speaks to an overflow crowd in the College of Public Affairs and Community Service Building's Collaborating Commons on Thursday. Dyson was the keynote for the Department of Black Studies' annual Malcolm X Festival and Conference.

PUBLIC SALE: There will be a public auction of University surplus property at the warehouse at 3805 N. 16th St. on Saturday, April 25th, 2009. Standley Auction & Realty Co. will handle the sale. Items may be viewed starting at 8 a.m. on the date of the sale with the auction to start at 10 a.m.

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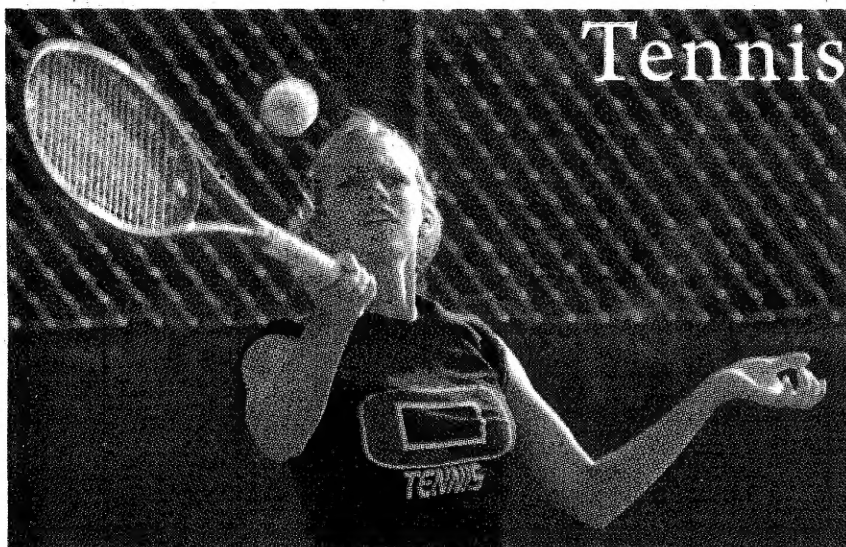
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Tennis team finishes with shut out

TAYLOR MULLER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Mavs served up their fourth shut out of the season to the Hornets of Emporia State University on Saturday at Hanscom Tennis Center, which was also the team's last regular season match.

The shut out propelled UNO to an even 9-9 overall, 6-2 in the Mid-America Intercollegiate

Left: Rachel Faulk connects with the ball during UNO's match against Creighton. (MIKE FISCHER/THE GATEWAY)

Athletics Association, with the MIAA postseason tournament beginning Saturday in Overland Park, Kan.

Senior team captain Rachel Faulk and freshman Traci Moglestad secured No. 1 doubles with an 8-6 win, to improve to 8-0 against conference foes. Both women also won their respective singles matches, as well.

The No. 2 doubles team of freshmen Heather Hottman and Samantha Thomas defeated Emporia for an 8-4 win while junior Kelsey Haas and freshman Mary Lausten won No. 3 doubles 8-2.

Sweeping all sets but two in singles play, Haas, Hottman and Thomas, as well as freshman Kelsie Olson picked up singles wins.

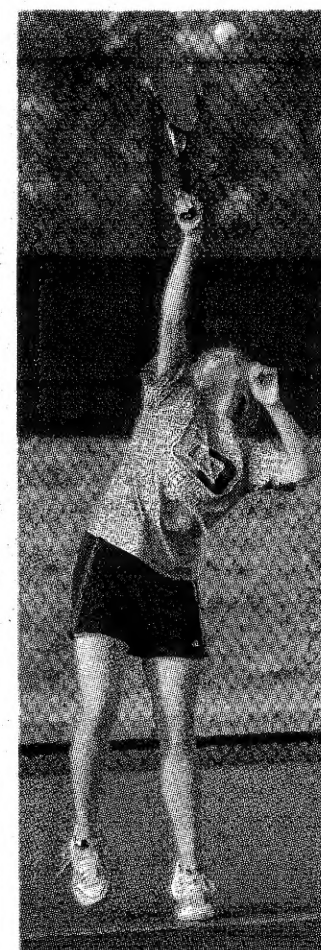
On April 11, the team clinched a 5-4 win over Truman State with a pair of singles wins after sweeping doubles play.

The duo of Faulk and Moglestad secured No. 1 doubles 8-4. The No. 2 doubles team of Hottman and Thomas won its set 8-6, while Haas and Lausten battled for a 9-7 win over Truman.

UNO's two singles wins clinched the Maverick win, edging out Truman by only a point.

Faulk won her sets 6-3 and 6-3, while Olson dispatched her opponent 6-0 and 6-4.

The week before that win, on April 8, UNO faced its fourth Division-I opponent in Iowa State University. The Mavs were shut out by Iowa State at the Koch Tennis Center in straight sets. UNO lost all three doubles matches 8-2.



Mary Lausten reaches for the ball during UNO's match against Creighton. (MIKE FISCHER/THE GATEWAY)

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Softball splits series with ranked Missouri Western

JESSE D KUHNLE
CONTRIBUTOR

The No. 19 Mavericks split a doubleheader at home Friday with No. 25 Missouri Western to improve to 33-10 overall, and 7-3 in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

Sloppy play plagued UNO in the first game as the Mavericks committed four errors and fell behind 6-0 before scoring in the fifth inning.

Sophomore Lindsey Slocum ignited a brief Maverick rally in the bottom of the fifth inning when she blasted a solo home run. Junior Jenna Dell followed with a two-run single to narrow the gap to 6-3. The Mavericks grounded out to end the inning. Missouri Western added an insurance run in the top of the sixth inning to win 7-3.

Junior Melissa Negrete picked up the loss and fell to 13-5 on the season. Negrete gave up four earned runs on eight hits in



UNO catcher Kristi Meneely tags out Missouri Western's Shannon Pivovar during the sixth-inning of game one on Friday. (VALERIE LOSEKE/THE GATEWAY)

four and two-thirds innings of work.

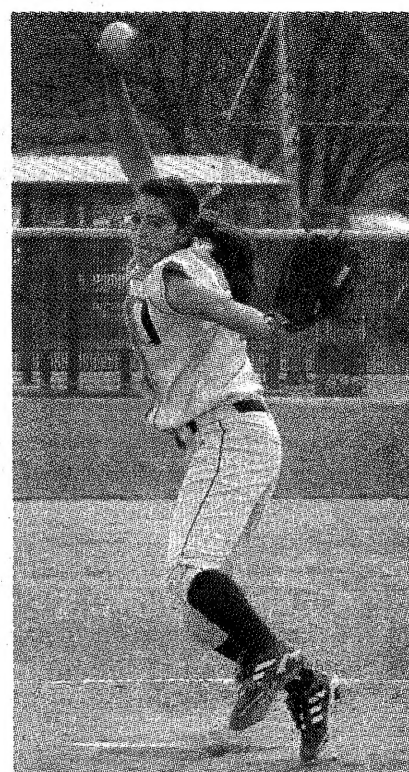
The Mavericks bounced back to win the second game 6-2. Slocum picked up the win after scattering seven hits over five innings. She allowed one earned run and struck out five, improving to 11-1 on the year.

With the Mavericks trailing 2-1 in the bottom of the fourth inning, junior Kristin Wellwood crushed a two-run home run to give UNO a 4-2 lead.

Dell and sophomore Alli Hukill came up big in the fifth and sixth innings, with Dell knocking a RBI double in the fifth and Hukill going deep with a solo home run in the sixth.

Sophomore Beth Haley entered in the sixth inning and pitched two scoreless innings. She allowed only one hit to earn her second save of the year.

The Mavs will close out the regular season with four MIAA doubleheaders on the road. UNO faces Pittsburg State on Tuesday. First pitch is set for 1 p.m.



Melissa Negrete delivers a pitch during game one on Friday. (VALERIE LOSEKE/THE GATEWAY)

Tennis team secures points against conference opponent, but still falls 6-3 to Emporia State

TAYLOR MULLER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

As the men near the end of the 2008-09 tennis season, the team managed to secure three points against Emporia State on Saturday in its best showing against a conference foe.

The Mavs fell 6-3 that afternoon, with a lone doubles point and wins at No. 1 and No. 3 singles.

The loss left the team with an overall record of 6-8, 0-5 in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. Thursday's match against Concordia University in Seward, Neb., will be the final dual of the regular season.

Against Emporia, the Mavs secured No. 2 doubles with junior Chase Petersen and freshman Matt Frost for the close 9-8 win.

Frost also picked up a point at No. 1 singles, winning 7-6 and 6-2.

Senior Marcus Hansen won UNO's third point with a 7-5, 6-4 win at No. 3 singles, his second conference point of the season.

UNO however, did not do as well against conference opponent Truman State University on April 11, losing 8-1.

The Mavs picked up a doubles win with Hansen and freshman Jon McQuistan at No. 1 with a 9-8 victory, after being a serve away from defeat. The win was the duo's third of the season.

However, Truman swept the remaining matches, despite the best efforts of Hansen at No. 2 singles. He lost the first set 6-3, picked up the team's only singles set 6-3 and fell 6-3 in the third set.

The team then faced Minnesota State, Mankato, at the Dewey Tennis Center on Friday afternoon.

The Mavs were up 4-2 against Mankato with three singles matches remaining, when co-captain Petersen secured the team's first win against an NCAA D-II school with a 6-3, 6-2 win at No. 4 singles.

UNO ended the match with a 6-3 win over Mankato, with wins at No. 1 and 2 doubles, as well as No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4 singles.

Petersen and Frost took No. 2 doubles 8-3, while Hansen and McQuistan teamed up for 9-7 win over Mankato, breaking serve to come back.



PHOTO BY VALERIE LOSEKE/THE GATEWAY

WOMEN'S WALK

Despite inclement weather moving the 24th annual 2009 UNO/Diet Pepsi Women's Walk indoors to the Sapp Fieldhouse Saturday morning, more than 700 walkers turned out to help raise more than \$270,000 for UNO's marquee fundraiser for women's athletic scholarships.

The money raised exceeded the goal set at the beginning of the campaign.

The event is usually held outside on campus, but rain forced the event indoors. Walkers were cheered on by members of UNO's women's athletic teams, athletic department staff and UNO faculty. Also present were Chancellor John Christensen and Omaha mayor Mike Fahey.

Since its inception in 1986, the walk now has raised more than \$3.75 million for women's athletic scholarships.

- Michelle Bishop

FROM FINALISTS: PAGE 1

appearance where he earned defensive most valuable player honors. His jersey, No. 34, was retired at the 1994 Spring Game.

Alberts has provided commentary for CNN/Sports Illustrated, ESPN and CBS College Sports, including recently color commentary for Southeastern Conference games on CBS. ESPN fired Alberts in 2005 for failing to report to a studio assignment because of a disagreement over his role on "College GameDay."

Beyer is a former assistant football coach at UNK, where he played running back, rushing for 2,042 yards over his career - one of the top records for the Lopers.

He was also formerly the athletic director at Boys Town before moving to Millard South.

In his time as athletic director at Millard South, Beyer has seen his school produce state wrestling champions every year, a state championship in soccer last year and an appearance in the Class A state finals in football last year.

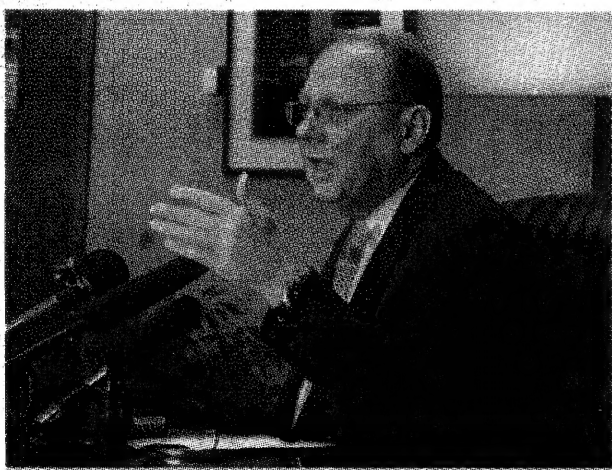
Danenhauer is more than just an UNO alumnus. The former Maverick all-conference tackle is the brother of former athletic director Bob Danenhauer and the son of the former UNO football coach, who was also named Bill.

Before going to coach the Dana Vikings, Danenhauer had served in coaching roles at

Washburn University - a MIAA conference rival of the Mavericks - and St. Cloud University in St. Cloud, Minn.

Danenhauer briefly played professional football, being signed as an offensive guard by the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1981. He also wrestled professionally in World Championship Wrestling, where he competed as Dave "Evan" Sullivan.

Marcil, a graduate of Creighton, is the former commissioner of the North Central Conference, UNO's former Division II



Chancellor John Christensen takes questions Friday at a press conference. (VALERIE LOSEKE/THE GATEWAY)

conference that dissolved last year.

As commissioner of the Division II Sunshine State Conference, Marcil is currently the president of the NCAA Division II Conference Commissioners Association.

He has also served on several other NCAA committees, including the NCAA Executive Committee, the Division II Budget and Finance Committee and the chair of the NCAA Division II Management Council.

Marcil formerly worked for the NCAA, where he conducted compliance reviews and assisted with the Division I certification program.

He has also served as an assistant in the athletic departments at Creighton, Miami-Dale Community College and St. Thomas University in Florida.

Opening a 'great opportunity'

The athletic director position became open last month when David Miller, the current athletic director, accepted a position with Upper Iowa University in Fayette, Iowa. Tom Frette, senior associate athletic director, also accepted a position as the coordinator of sports medicine at the Nebraska Orthopedic Hospital.

"I think this is a great opportunity for someone, and I think the pool actually reflected the fact that people were very much interested in this position," Christensen said. "There were a lot of inquiries, and I think a very nice applicant pool, not unlike most of those that we've had in the past."

Miller came to UNO two years ago after controversy overtook the university

regarding a \$1 million annual shortfall in the athletics budget, which eventually resulted in resignations from Chancellor Nancy Belck and Athletic Director David Herbster.

The four finalists were selected from a pool of about 30 applicants, which were reviewed by a committee composed of Christensen, Mike Denney, head coach of wrestling; Bill Wakefield, director of outreach for the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice; John Langan, a member of the Athletic Committee who chaired the 2007 search; Michele Roberts, associate athletic director and senior women's administrator; and Bill Beavers, a community representative.

A student was not included on the committee, which Christensen said in retrospect was an oversight on his part. However, students and student-athletes will be involved in the final review before a decision is made.

"That's probably my fault for putting that together quickly," Christensen said. "We probably should have had a student-athlete on the committee."

Christensen said none of the coaches or other members of the athletic department applied for the job, including Kemp, who withdrew his name from consideration after being selected as a finalist for the job in 2007.

Music emphasizes strong bond among family

CAITRIN SHIRAZI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

It wasn't the first time Chad Wallin had performed at a coffee house, but it was his first show featuring his original material.

"I was super nervous for this show," Wallin said. "I mean, I've played a ton of shows before but this was the first where I played mostly music I wrote."

Wallin, a UNO student and photographer for the Gateway, played The Foundry coffeehouse in Benson last Saturday with opening acts Blepo and Sunset Club.

Wallin, 22, opened his set with the only cover of the night, "Eli, the Barrow Boy" by the Decemberists, accompanied by younger sister Ally, 21.

"My brothers have opened my eyes to a world of music I never knew existed," Ally said. "I fell in love with 'Eli, the Barrow Boy' ... the first time I heard Chad play it on the guitar."

Conversations trailed to a halt as the two began the song. Soon, the audience was silent. The artists' voices blended flawlessly in a haunting, captivating harmony, invisibly intertwining with the notes flowing from his lone guitar.

When the two finished, the audience erupted into applause and cheers. Ally Wallin retook her place in the audience, and Chad began to play again.

"Music brings our family together," Ally said. "To me, singing great music with my family is the best thing in the world."

Chad Wallin continued his set with

five of his original pieces, all of which were received warmly and enthusiastically by the audience.

"I feel like any nervousness I may have felt beforehand was worth more than the feeling I had afterward," Wallin said. "It really makes me appreciate the experience more."

Wallin said he feels relieved that Saturday's show went so well and is excited to play more shows in the future.

"I'm very pleased with how my first real show went. I think the crowd enjoyed it and was entertained. I'm really grateful that many people showed up to support me," Wallin said. "I work really hard every single night after I get off work. I think about getting home and picking up my guitar all day."

Chad's younger brother Harrison Wallin, 19, films the performances. He also maintains the Web site, beaverlakeproductions.com, where videos and photos from each show are displayed. Harrison has recently opened the site to feature other local musicians, artists and photographers in addition to showcasing the work and performances of his family members.

Local music supporters and enthusiasts Trent Smith and Erin Dugan were members of the audience Saturday.

"His music and song writing abilities are great," Smith said. "I really liked the show."

Dugan agreed and added that she is looking forward to buying his CD as soon as it comes out.

The last song of the night was written and performed by the youngest of the



Chad Wallin (left) and brother Justin perform acoustic songs at The Foundry. The pair are fans of singer/songwriter Elliott Smith and local band Bright Eyes. (CAITRIN SHIRAZI/THE GATEWAY)

Wallin family, Justin, 16.

"We have all been doing music our whole lives," Ally Wallin said. "I've always known that my family was talented but I had no idea that my brother was such an incredible song writer."

Justin Wallin said he enjoys working on music with Chad and that he has helped him a great deal with his own writing.

"Chad is great at putting words together and making things flow," Justin Wallin said. "There is a creativeness behind his quietness."

Also in the audience Saturday night were the musical family's proud parents, Tom and Cathy Wallin.

"Chad's writing style and lyrics are very deep and well-crafted," Cathy said

after the show.

Tom Wallin, who has been performing with bands throughout the Midwest since he was 15-years-old, serves as a musical guide and inspiration to his children.

"The whole Wallin family is cool," said Blepo artist Brian Wolfe. "One thing I really liked in particular was how he incorporated his family into his set."

The Wallin family said they are very tight-knit and supportive of each other.

"I love getting to be a part of the amazing things that my brothers do with music," Ally said. "I'm really proud of Chad and can't wait for more shows."

More information on upcoming show times or to check out Chad Wallin's music, visit www.myspace.com/chadwallinmusic.



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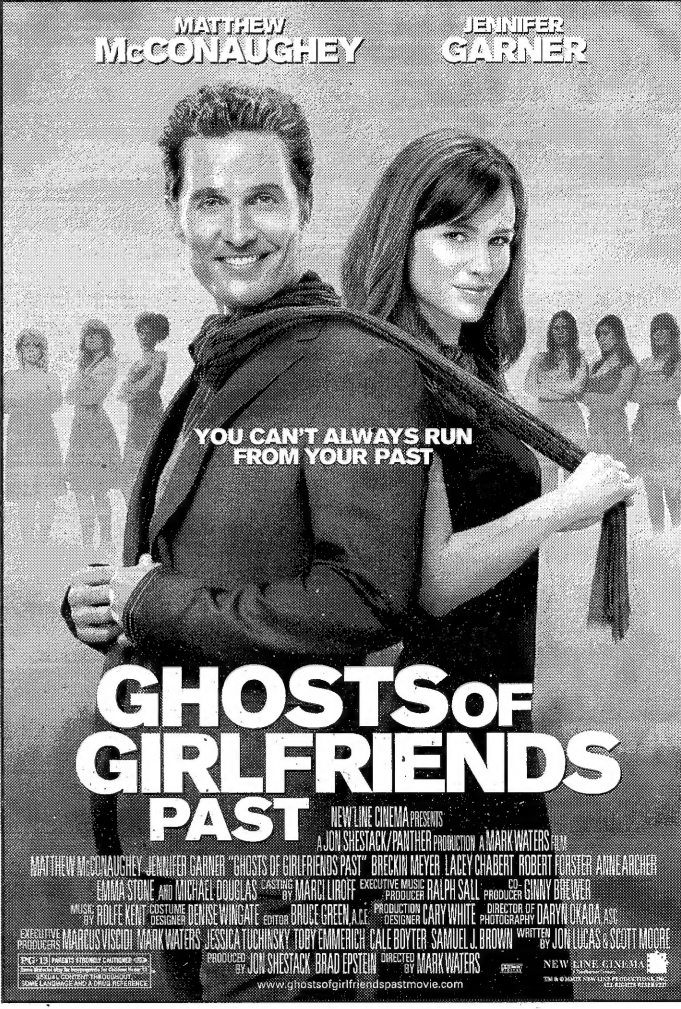
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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, MAY 1ST

STUDENTS ONLY

Aim first step to green

It took a few years and much work from the Environmental Club and its allies, but UNO finally implemented an improved recycling program, only to have a lot of students and faculty members not understand how to use it.

Many people are still just chucking their soda cans and paper into trash bins, even though there are blue recycling bins nearby - usually right next to the wastebaskets. All it takes is a bit of awareness when getting rid of that Aquafina. Here is a quick reminder of what can and cannot be recycled: cans, plastic bottles, cardboard and paper of any kind can be recycled. Glass, Styrofoam, liquids and food cannot be recycled.

Recycling may be on shaky ground here. Though the university wishes to expand its recycling program, it must consider "cost, infrastructure, demand... cleanliness and sanitation" when weighing its options, according to the "Sustainability" FAQ on UNO's Web site. Students and faculty can keep the pressure on UNO to expand its recycling program by complying with recycling regulations, since demand is an important criterion in evaluating the value of a recycling program. In most cases on campus, recycling is as simple as shifting one's aim about an inch when tossing away empty bottles or sheets of scratch paper.

The good news in all of this is that UNO has recycled more than 60 tons of materials since the program began in July.

While bringing recycling to UNO has undoubtedly been a good thing, the program still does not reach all areas of campus, including the most crucial area of all: the dorms. Students go through tons of bottles and cans of pop, water and

beer, only to throw all that recyclable material into garbage bins. Bringing recycling to the dorms would save thousands of pounds of recyclables from being needlessly disposed in a vulnerable part of the Nebraska wilderness.

In the Omaha area, recycling is in danger of disappearing. A lot of privately-run drop-off sites have closed for financial reasons. The Hy-Vee at 79th and Cass Street has shut down Omaha's most popular drop-off site because the receptacles were supposedly making a mess in the store's parking lot.

The city stopped taking glass containers in the green recycling bins because it was not economically viable to keep collecting them. A list of drop-off sites that do accept glass can be found at the city's solid waste management Web site, www.wasteline.org.

There is hope. Citizens can still take advantage of current recycling options and can make their feelings known when voting for mayor on May 12. Students in particular should make use of UNO's recycling program, imperfect as it may be. Though this entails a slight shift in trajectory when discarding pop cans and old homework assignments, the planetary benefits are well worth it.

Finally, thanks to the anticipation of inclement weather this past Saturday, Earth Day Omaha has been moved to next Saturday, April 25, from noon to 8 p.m. at Elmwood Park.

The event is free and includes live music and food from various local vendors. Until 6 p.m., the company GRX will be there to accept electronics for recycling. Except for refrigerators and air conditioners, GRX will take anything with a plug.

Told You So



Tom McCauley

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

One of the most fundamental human rights is the right to free speech. It is protected in all aspects, and should be respected. On a university campus, where thought and learning are perpetuated, and where people go to be educated free-thinkers, it is assumed that this right will be used in an appropriate manner. Another basic human right is to be what you are without the burden of oppression or discrimination. On a university campus, diversity of the student body is essential and each student is understood to be a unique individual.

When free speech is used to decry or discriminate against a group of people, we are offended, and appalled. When this happens on a university campus, we are deeply, morally horrified by the injustice. We expect those who are in authority to keep discrimination from us, to protect us, the students from it. When they do not we are angered. We feel the need to complain, and to rectify the situation.

Today on campus, there was a man outside the student center, who was using the Christian doctrine to discriminate against homosexuals. He had signs, and was shouting out to all who had to pass him that "sodomites" were evil. He didn't stop there; he went on to my own personal horror, to describe homosexuals as morally bankrupt. I witnessed several things at once, first, my own reaction, the reaction of a young man who tore part of the metal frame from this man's sign and threw it at him, and the reactions of several other students, who shouted obscenities back at the man.

I was so incensed, that I immediately called to lodge a complaint. I wanted to know how to get this hateful, discriminatory person removed from our campus as soon as possible. After a few transferred calls, I finally was told that this man has been doing this for "years."

Years?! Does this mean that for many years the homosexual community of students on this campus has had to face discrimination whenever this man decides to get on his high horse? Why is this allowed? Why are we forced to put up with discrimination on our campus? When I asked I was also told that I was the first person to want to lodge a formal complaint. I find this difficult to believe, as several people outside were shocked by this man.

A fellow student and I ended up at the student affairs administration office to voice a complaint. It was mentioned to us that this man has a right to free speech. It was said that there is a fine line between free speech and discrimination. I disagree. I believe that when a man is shouting hate at students, for whatever cause, he is wrong, and should be removed from our campus. More than that, I believe that if we are to have a campus that is able to encourage and embrace diversity, then we must rid ourselves from this kind of disruption.

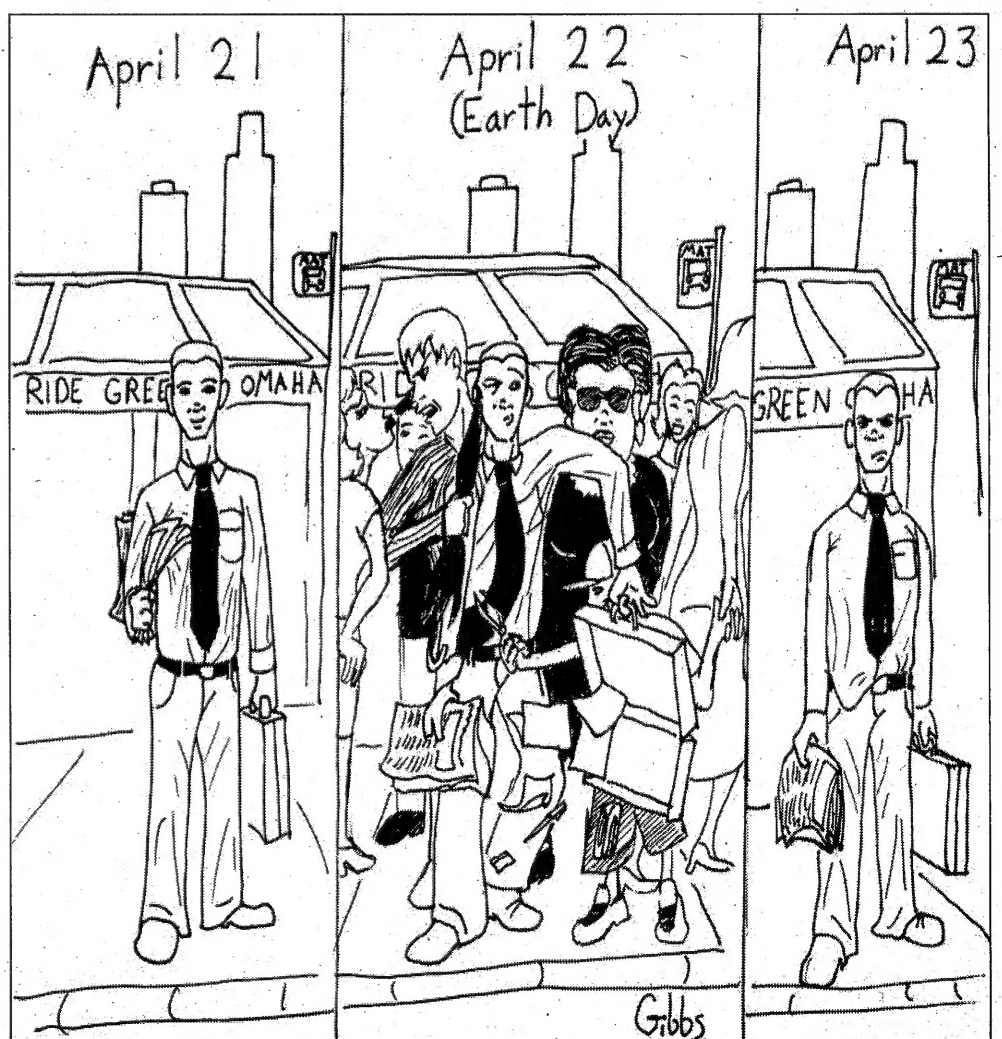
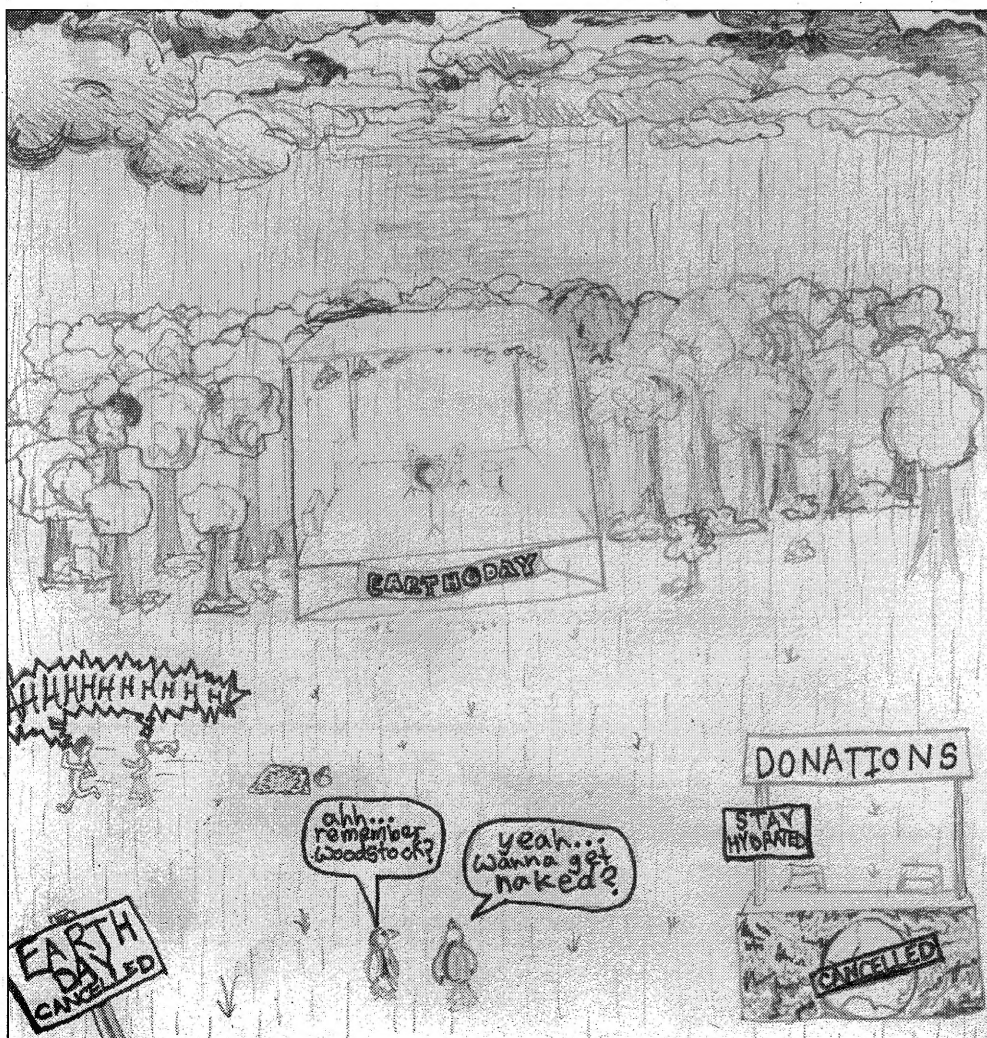
If I, an older, heterosexual female student was so offended by this man's screaming, can you imagine what an impressionable 18- or 19-year-old student must have felt? What about a homosexual student? His ability to stand there and shout at us is tantamount to your approval of his message. As educators, I ask you on behalf of your student body to remove the man from our campus, and to bar him and any other form of discrimination from us.

Please protect us from hate filled diatribe which offers us no value. Please understand that we are a student body with many different people with many different genders, races, sexual orientations, and that we come here to learn, not to be shouted at with discriminatory vigor.

Thank you for your consideration,

Julie Galbraith

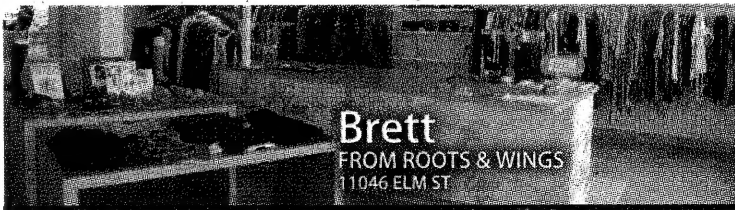
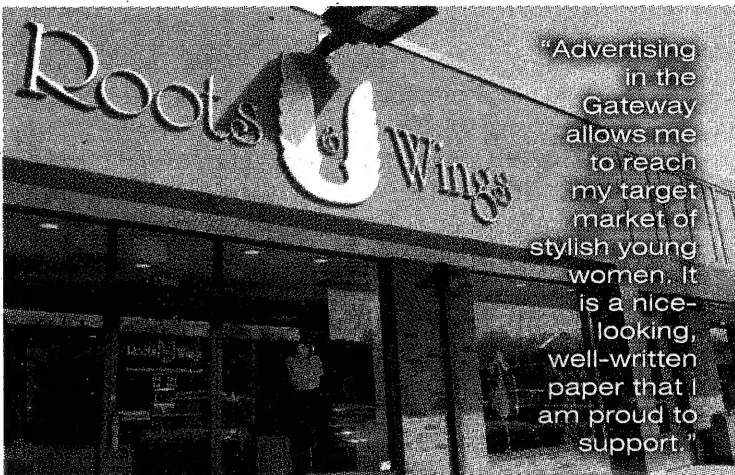
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FROM TAXES: PAGE 1

At the Omaha protest, speakers voiced their disapproval of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act passed into law in February, which totaled more than \$787 billion in federal spending.

Concern over large stimulus packages and bailout plans – including the plan that allocated more than \$180 billion to insurance giant AIG – attracted an estimated 1,500

people to the courthouse lawn.

“You can’t spend this much money and not raise taxes,” said Andrew Northwall, a UNO alumnus and executive director of the Douglas County Republican Party. “It scares people.”

In addition to speeches, which included Nebraska State Treasurer Shane Osborn, the Omaha tea party held a Patrick Henry reenactment. Henry was an American

Revolutionary, famous for fighting corruption.

“When it ended with ‘give me liberty or give me death,’ the sound of the crowd was just deafening,” Northwall said.

Responding to challenges that the protests were the work of conservatives, Northwall said the crowd included “blue-collar folks,” business professionals and Democrats.

People from all different social classes participated because they’re tired of seeing their money “go to people with nine children and no job,” Northwall said, referring to Nadya Suleman, a mother of octuplets in January who is unemployed.

“These elected officials,” Northwall said, “we put them in office; we’re their bosses.”

However, not everyone agrees with Northwall’s perspective on the Obama administration’s handling of taxes and the economy

Jim Rogers, executive director of the

Nebraska Democratic Party, accused the tea party protests as being an orchestrated Republican political tactic rather than a bipartisan display of disapproval.

“These tea parties are nothing more than a gimmick to provide some cover to the overtly partisan rhetoric coming from the Republican leadership,” Rogers said.

Contrary to protesters’ accusations, Rogers doesn’t perceive the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as a threat to American wallets. He says the act will reduce about \$9 million in taxes every week, especially for middle-class families.

Despite the frustration that spawned the tea party, Northwall said that, overall, the protest was one of the most peaceful ones he has attended.

“The only time anyone got riled up is when one of the speakers took too long,” Northwall said.

The report contains material from McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.

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